

Applicant: Smith et al.
Application No: 09/890,927
Docket No: 1188-67 PCT/US
Page 4

REMARKS

The present invention is subject to restriction requirement. Specifically, the Examiner states that the invention of the claims lacks unity within the meaning of PCT rules 13.1-13.2. Therefore the Examiner has required restriction to a "single invention" and has presented exemplary groups of the subject matter of the present claims as Groups I - XIV.

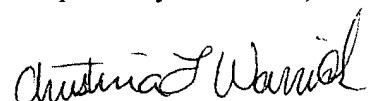
Applicants elect the subject matter of Group I, original claims 1-6 and 20-26. However, Applicants have amended the application to reflect this election. New claim 27 has been added which substantially incorporates the subject matter of original claims 1-4, which have been cancelled without prejudice and claims 7-19 have been withdrawn.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the cancelled and withdrawn claims in a divisional application.

The Examiner will note that the claims of the selected group include the subject matter which was found to be novel as set forth in paragraph 5.1 of the International Preliminary Examination Report.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



Christina L. Warrick
Registration No. 45,690
Attorney for Applicant(s)

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791
(973) 331-1700